

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8079

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ABIDJAN 3046

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, US IV
SUBJ: COUNTRY DATA SHEETS

REF: STATE 078166

RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO FORMAT OF REFTEL.

I. COUNTRY-IVORY COAST

A. ECONOMIC PROFILE

1. POPULATION-7.3 MILLION (1977)
2. RATE OF GROWTH IN PERCENTAGE-3.8 ANNUALLY
3. NUMBER OF BIRTHS ANNUALLY-300,000 (1977)
4. PER CAPITA INCOME PER YEAR-\$750 (1977)
5. AVERAGE RATE OF GROWTH IN PER CAPITA INCOME
OVER LAST 10 YEARS IN CURRENT DOLLARS--12 PERCENT
6. RATE IN OVERALL REAL GROWTH IN GNP FROM 1970-75 - 7
PER CENT

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7. CHANGE IN RECENT GROWTH RATES AND WHY:
THE RATE WAS 12.5 PERCENT IN 1976 AND 7.8 PERCENT IN
1977. EHT HIGHER RATES WERE DUE TO AN ACCELERATED
GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT PROGRAM, IMPROVED COFFEE AND
COCOA CROPS, INCREASED WORLD MARKET COMMODITY PRICES, AND
INCREASED EUROPEAN DEMAND FOR IVORY COAST TIMBER DUE TO ECONOMIC
RECOVERY AND CONSEQUENT UPSURGE IN CONSTRUCTION

8. TRADE-HEAVY DEPENDENCE ON MAJOR EXPORTS

A. MAJOR EXPORTS-1976

COFFEE: \$ 555.3 MILLION A 33.8 PERCENT OF TOTAL

COCOA: \$ 381.6 MILLION - 23.2 PERCENT OF TOTAL

TIMBER \$ 327Y MILLION - 19.9 PERCENT OF TOTAL

B. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS TO U.S.

1976I.C. IMPORTS FROM U.S. -

\$67.5 MILLION

EARTH-MOVING EQUIPMENT 13.2 MILLION

TRACTORS 12.0 MILLION

MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS 5.7 MILLION

KRAFT PAPER 5.3 MILLION

I.C. EXPORTS TO US.S. - \$171.6 MILLION

COFFEE 85.6 MILLION

COCOA 78.3 MILLION

WOOD PRODUCTS 3.0 MILLION

9. LITERACY RATE 55 PERCENT

10. LIFE EXPECTANCY 43.5 YEARS

11. PEOPLE PER DOCTOR 18,500

12. NUTRITION- AVERAGE DAILY CALORIC INTAKE:

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(TO BE REPORTED IN SEPTTEL)

B. POLITICAL SITUATION: IVORY COAST HAS A STABLE
POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT FREE OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL THREATS
IVORY COAST IS A ONE-PARTY STATE. THE SINGLE RULING
PARTY, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF IVORY COAST (PDCI), PROVIDES
A FORUM FOR POLICY DISCUSSION AND ALSO SERVES AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR
INSURING THE APPLICATION OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES THROUGH
ITS ORGANIZATIONAL NETWORK, AS WELL AS THROUGH THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY. THE MOST IMPORTANT POLITICAL FORCE, HOWEVER,
REMAINS PRESIDENT FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, WHO HAS BEEN
OVERWHELMINGLY ELECTED PRESIDENT AT EACH ELECTION SINCE
INDEPENDENCE.

C. HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS:

HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN IVORY COAST ARE GOOD. THE
CONSTITUTION, THE LEGAL SYSTEM AND TRADITIONAL SOCIAL
INSTITUTIONS PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR THE INTEGRITY OF THE
PERSON, AS WELL AS FOR CIVIL AND POLITICAL LIBERTIES. THESE
ARE HONORED IN PRACTICE BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE PARTY AND
THE LEADERSHIP OF IVORY COAST. WHILE DISTRIBUTION OF
WEALTH HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT HAPHAZARD AND AINCOM DISPARITIES
HAVE WIDENED, THE SUBSTANTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF IVORY COAST'S

ECOMOMY HAS PROVIDED THE ORDINARY CITIZEN A LEVEL OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELL BEING THAT IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN BLACK AFRICA.

4II. U.S. INTERESTS AND POLICIES:

A. POLITICAL: SPECIFIC U.S. POLITICAL INTERESTS AND POLICIES ARE:

- EXPANSION OF IVORY COAST'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AS WELL AS IVORY COAST'S SUPPORT FOR U.S. POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA;
 - MAINTENANCE OF IVORY COAST RESISTANCE TO SOVIET AND CUBAN INFLUENCE AND SUPPORT FOR PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES IN AFRICA;
 - INCREASED UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. POLICIES AND DEEPENED CULTURAL RELATIONS:
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-AND CONTINUED HOSPITABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR LARGE OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE U.S. PRESENCE IN IVORY COAST.

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B.

U.S SECURITY INTERESTS IN IVORY COAST ARE LIMITED. THE ONGOING SUCCESS OF IVORY COAST'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE SKILL AND EFFECTIVENESS OF IVORIAN DIPLOMACY UNDER PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, AND THE CONTINUING CLOSE TIES BETWEEN IVORY COAST AND FRANCE HAVE PLACED IVORY COAST SECURELY IN THE WESTERN COMMUNITY FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. MOREOVER, THE RECENT AND APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL RECONCILIATION

BETWEEN IVORY COAST, SENEGAL AND GUINEA SHOULD REMOVE A POTENTIALLY DESTABILIZING FACTOR FROM REGIONAL POLITICS AND THUS ADVANCE THE WESTERN STRATEGIC INTEREST IN EXPANDING REGIONAL STABILITY.

C. U.S. ECONOMIC INTERESTS:

U.S. INTERESTS IN IVORY COAST ARE GROWING IN BOTH TRADE AND INVESTMENT. FIGURES BELOW SHOW AN INCREASE IN TRADING AS WELL AS LEVELS OF U.S. INVESTMENT. IN THE AREA OF IMPORTS, THE U.S. IS A MAJOR BUYER OF IVORY COAST'S COFFEE AND COCOA. IN THE EXPORT AREA, U.S. DIRECT EXPORTS INCREASED BY 33 PERCENT BETWEEN 1975 AND 1976 ALONE AND THE U.S. SHARE OF THE MARKET IS NOW 7.4 PERCENT. INVESTMENT TOO ARE GROWING RAPIDLY. FOR INSTANCE, SEVERAL U.S. FIRMS ARE EXPLORING FOR OFFSHORE OIL IN IVORY COAST WATERS. ON BALANCE, MEDIUM TERM PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUING GROWTH IN BOTH U.S.-IVORIAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT ARE GOOD.
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U.S. - IVORY COAST TRADE	1974	1975	1976
(\$MILLIONS)			
EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES			
(F.O.B. IVORY COAST)	86.2	108.8	171.6
IMPORTS FROM UNITED STATES			
(C.I.F. IVORY COAST)	66.5	72.4	97.1
BALANCE	19.7	36.4	74.5

U.S. INVESTMENT IN IVORY COAST (\$MILLIONS)	
(ESTIMATED BOOK VALUE AT YEAREND 1976)	
BUSINESS SYSTEMS	12.8
CHEMICALS	5.1
CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY	0.9
COSMETICS, SOAPS, TOILETRIES	1.2
FISHERIES	0.7
HOTELS	4.5
MINING	15
PETROLEUM	17.0
SEWING MACHINES	1.0
TEXTILES	3.0
TOTAL	47.7

III. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. U.S. BILATERAL AID (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	1977	1978	1978 (ESTIMATED)
SELF HELP	62	80	80
ENTENTE	3000	3000	3000
TOTAL	3062	3080	3080

B. IFI PROGRAMS (THOUSANDS DOLLARS)

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	1977	1978	1979
IBRD	10,500	12,800	N.A.
FED/EIB	700	300	N.A.
M TOTAL	11,200	13,100	

∴ OTHER DONORS (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	1977	1978	1979
CANADA (ACDI)	100	200	NA
FRANCE (CCCE)	3000	2400	NA
GERMANY (KFW)	1700	1800	NA
WFP	61	219	235
TOTAL	4861	4619	

IV. OBJECTIVES OF US ASSISTANCE

A. DEVELOPMENT AID - TOTAL OVER LAST 15 YEARS (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

38.4 ECONOMIC
86.9 EXIMBANK
125.3 TOTAL

AT PRESENT IVORY COAST IS CONSIDERED TOO RICH FOR US
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND, AS INDICATED, USAID IS MINIMAL.

B. PL 480 OBJECTIVES: ALL PL 480 ASSISTANCE TO IVORY COAST
IS TITLE II, ADMINISTERED BY THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP)

C. SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE - NOT APPLICABLE

D. OTHER INFORMATION RELEVANT TO US FOREIGN ASSISTANCE: NONE
STEARNS

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